

I receive my share of unwanted phone calls from telemarketers. Picking up the phone and hearing nothing (as the auto-dialer calls too soon) is almost as bad as when the salesperson is on the other end. I get offers every day for windows, vinyl siding, credit cards and phone plans.

Does Verizon see the irony of selling Caller ID over the phone?

My real concern, however, is for my mother. She is 70 years old and retired. She had been receiving an UNREAL number of telemarketing calls. She would go to the phone, answer it, hang up.

She decided to get Caller ID. Then she had to get up, go over to the Caller ID screen, see it was an anonymous caller and listen to phone ring.

Lately she has invested in a call blocking plan from the phone company and the calls have stopped.

My question: Why should my mother, on a limited income, be forced to shell out money to the phone company to stop the harassment? If someone was coming to her door and bothering her 20 times a day I'm confident that the police would do something about it.

It's only a matter of time before the telemarketer find a way around the call blocking and she will have to pay more money to the phone company for some new way to stop the calls.

A viable "do not call" list be established. Innocent consumers are suffering and the only ones profiting are the phone companies.

Thank you for interest in this matter.